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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rural Safety and Law Enforcement Improvement Act Bill Details

Washington, D.C. --

July 26, 2002

Second District Brad Carson (D-OK) introduced the Rural Safety and Law Enforcement Act on Thursday, July 25th 2002. The following outlines the details of the bill.

Rural Safety and Law Enforcement Improvement Act

Sponsor: Congressman Brad Carson (D-Oklahoma)

Co-Sponsors: Congressman Brian Baird (D-Washington) Congressman Jim Matheson (D-Utah)

Congressman Jerry Moran (R-Kansas)

Title I: Small Community Law Enforcement Improvement Grants

Section 101: Small Community Grant Program

Provides grants to rural law enforcement agencies to retain, for one year, officers employed under the COPS Program

Assistance is limited to 20% of the original grant

Ten percent of awards will be made available to tribal law enforcement

Section 102: Small Community Technology Grant Program

Sets aside funding under the COPS MORE program specifically for rural law enforcement agencies.

Funding can be used to for police communications and crime solving

Technologies, including DNA analysis, photo enhancement and forensic capabilities.

There is a 10% cost-share requirement

Section 103: Rural 9-1-1 Service

Creates a grant program to provide access to, and improve communications infrastructure for 911 service in rural counties

Ten percent of awards will be made available to tribal governments

Title II: Cracking Down on Methamphetamine

Section 201: Methamphetamine Treatment Programs in Rural Areas

Creates a pilot program for community-based public and nonprofit private entities for substance abuse treatment and prevention in

Requires scientifically-based treatments are practiced

Ten percent of awards will be made available to tribal governments

Section 202: Methamphetamine Prevention Education

Develops a grant program for community driven methamphetamine prevention programs

Requires grant recipients to have had previous experience in community coalition building and be part of an existing coalition that includes public health officials, law enforcement, and community organizations

Ten percent of awards will be made available to tribal governments

Section 203: Methamphetamine Clean-Up

Provides grants to state and local governments and tribal governments for the cleanup of meth labs located in rural areas

This provision provides additional contract personnel, equipment and facilities to rural areas

Ten percent of awards will be made available to tribal governments

Section 204: Authorization of Appropriations Relating to COPS Grants

Authorizes additional appropriations for training to state and local prosecutors and law enforcements agents for methamphetamine crimes

Sets aside 20% of funding for rural areas

Section 205: Expansion of Methamphetamine Hot Spots

Expands the program to hire personnel and purchase equipment for rural areas to assist in the enforcement and prosecution of methamphetamine offenses and environmental cleanup

Title III: Law Enforcement Training

Section 301: Small Town and Rural Training Program

Establishes a Rural Policing Institute administered by the National Center for State and Local Law Enforcement Training as part of the Small Town and Rural Training Program

The Institute will develop and deliver training programs to local and tribal governments in rural areas

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